

State Route 801

Proposed Loop 303 to Proposed Loop 202



FALL 2006

Introduction

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is studying a new proposed east-west freeway in western Maricopa County. The proposed freeway, State Route 801, would provide another east-west route to help relieve congestion from Interstate 10.

The proposed State Route 801 would begin at State Route 85 and connect at the proposed Loop 202 (South Mountain Freeway). The proposed project is being studied in two phases. The first phase, which includes studying the area between the proposed Loop 303 and the proposed Loop 202, is underway. The second phase, which will start early next year, will study the area from State Route 85 to the proposed Loop 303.

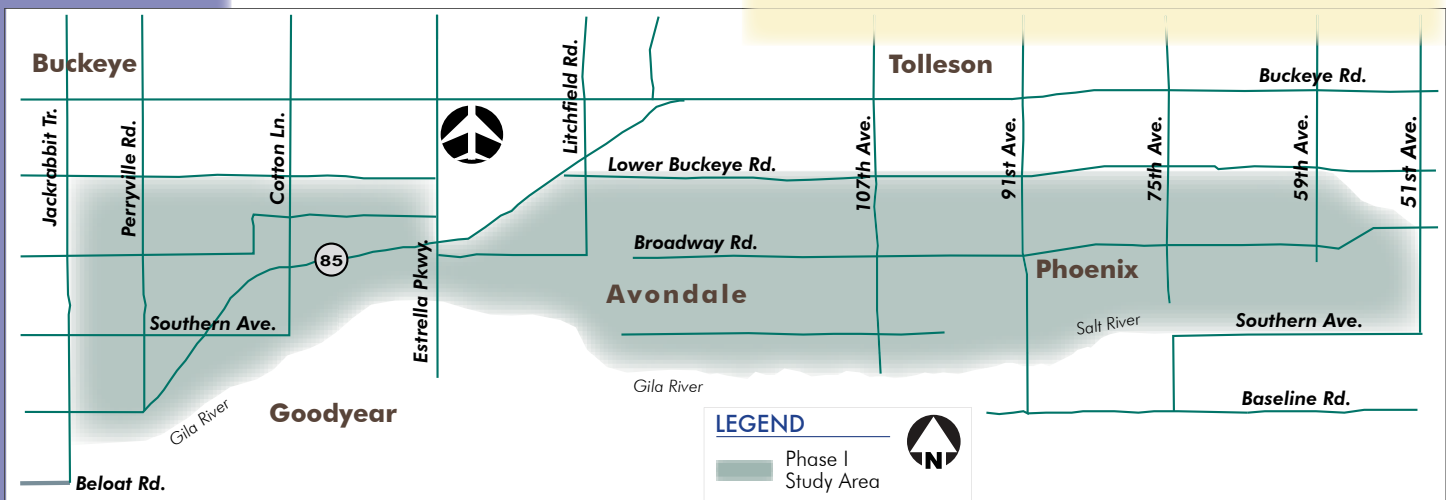


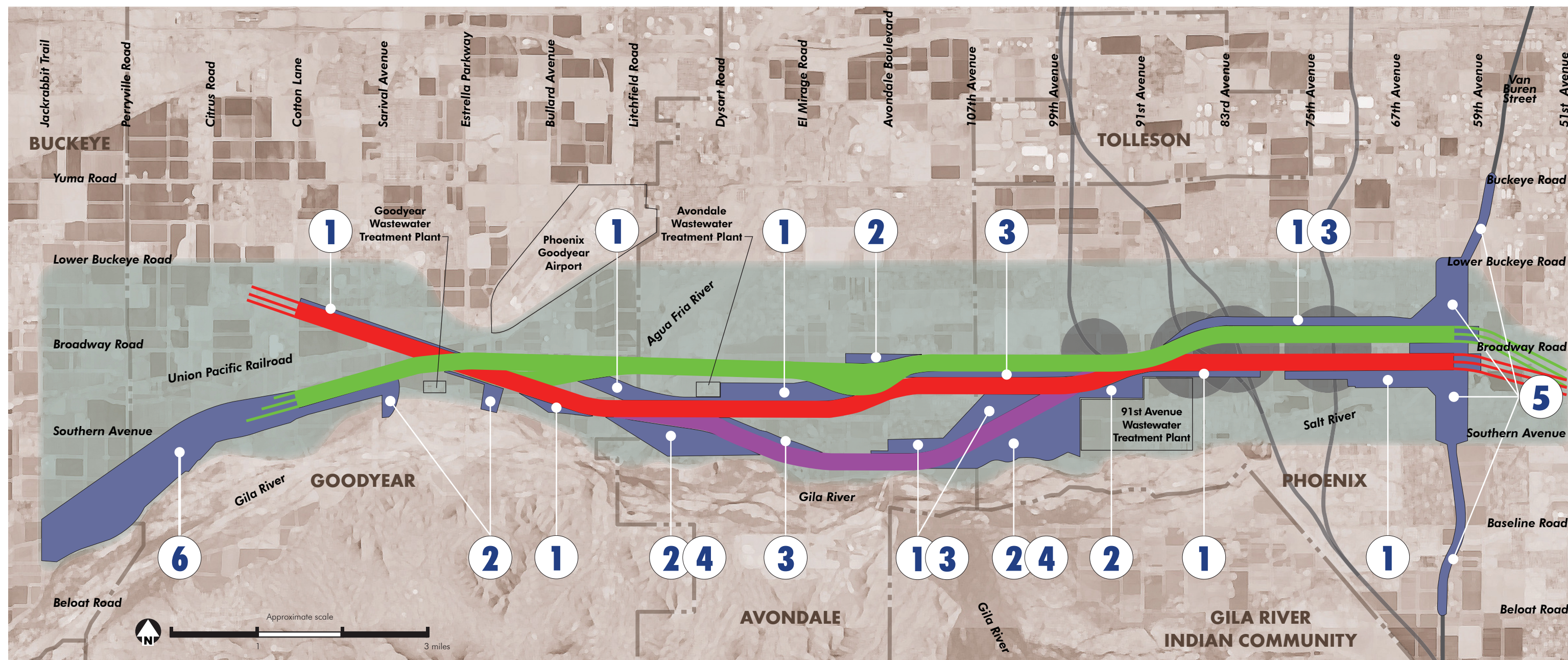
Project Update

ADOT and FHWA held one agency information meeting and two public information meetings in September 2005. A total of 183 individuals signed in at these three meetings. The purpose of these meetings was to inform agencies and the public about the study and provide opportunities for questions and comments.

Phase I Study Area

The Phase I study area boundary extends from Jackrabbit Trail on the west, 51st Avenue on the east, Lower Buckeye Road on the north, and the Gila and Salt rivers on the south. State Route 801 would be 14 miles of new freeway, with three general purpose lanes in each direction separated by an 82-foot-wide median to allow for future freeway widening.





We have Expanded the Corridors...

- 1 To avoid physical engineering constraints
- 2 To designate potential areas for future freeway drainage infrastructure
- 3 To create sufficient, safe distance between potential interchanges and local streets
- 4 To reflect input from local Cities requesting the analysis of expanded alignments
- 5 For future State Route 801 interchange considerations
- 6 For future Loop 303 interchange considerations

LEGEND

- Study area
- Original 1,000-foot corridors
- Expanded corridor areas
- Proposed South Mountain Freeway Study Alternatives
- Freeway interchange locations for proposed alternative South Mountain freeway alignments

In March 2006, ADOT and FHWA held one agency and two public scoping meetings for the study. A total of 279 individuals signed in at these three meetings. The purpose of these meetings was to introduce the agencies and the public to the study, present three proposed corridors, and provide the opportunity for the agencies and public to ask questions and comment. Each of the proposed corridors had a width of approximately 1,000 feet. Throughout the

study, the team has coordinated with Maricopa County, the Cities of Avondale, Goodyear, and Phoenix, and the Town of Buckeye to inform them of the study progress, as well as gain input on the proposed corridors. Taking into consideration the agency and public comments, the proposed corridors are being studied in detail and a proposed preferred alternative alignment may be identified in early 2007.

The study team appreciates the comments that have been received from the public and agencies and the cooperation from the County, City, and Town officials.

Conceptual Design Changes

After the public scoping meetings in March, the study team began evaluating the three proposed corridors in

detail. During the evaluation, six issues were identified (see above). In all cases, the revised conceptual designs contained elements that fell outside the original 1,000-foot corridors. Consequently, the corridors were adjusted and/or expanded to address these issues. The additional areas that have been added to each corridor are shaded in blue on the map above.

Public Meeting - How to get involved

The first phase of this study includes several additional public meetings. The final public meeting will be conducted as a hearing, where the public may ask questions and have their comments considered and included in the Final Environmental Assessment (EA). All comments made during the hearing will be recorded by a court reporter and included as part of the official project record.



Schedule

The State Route 801 study began in summer 2005 with the data gathering process for the environmental and engineering portion of the study. The Draft EA is tentatively scheduled to be completed and available for public review in late April or May 2007. A public hearing will be held at this time. It is estimated that the Final EA will be completed in fall 2007, and the engineering planning study will be completed in early 2008. If an alternative other than the "no-build" is selected as the preferred alternative, it is anticipated that in early 2009, the initial design will be completed. This proposed freeway is funded for construction during Phase 4 of the Maricopa Association of Governments' *Regional Transportation Plan (2021-2025)*.

Representatives from the State Route 801 study team will be available to answer questions on this study at the Loop 303 public information meeting, scheduled for:

Thursday, November 30, 2006
Liberty Elementary School
19818 W. Highway 85 (MC 85)
Buckeye, AZ
6 to 8 p.m.

You're
invited

Contact - How to provide your comments

If you have any questions or would like to submit comments on this study, please contact:

Michael Book
HDR Engineering, Inc.
3200 E. Camelback Road, Ste. 350
Phoenix, AZ 85018
phone: (602) 288-9905
fax: (602) 522-7707
e-mail: michael.book@hdrinc.com

What are
your concerns?

The study Web site is now online.
Please visit
www.azdot.gov/highways/projects/sr801
to see the latest study information.



Schedule

	2006		2007										
	nov	dec	jan	feb	mar	apr	may	june	july	aug	sept	oct	nov
meeting			●*			●						●	
study													
final environmental report													

* Proposed public scoping meeting for next phase of State Route 801, State Route 85 to proposed Loop 303